

Preliminary planning criteria include:

1. The RMP will be developed in compliance with FLPMA, all other applicable laws, regulations, executive orders, and BLM supplemental program guidance.

2. The planning process will include an EIS that will comply with NEPA standards.

3. Economic and social baselines and consequences will be developed in coordination with local and county governments.

4. Initiate government to government consultation, including Tribal interests.

5. Consider the extent to which the revised plan reduces airborne asbestos emissions and minimizes asbestos exposure and addresses public health impact of the Hazardous Asbestos Area. (Ref; Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Atlas Asbestos Mine Superfund Site Record of Decision (ROD), February 1991, Appendix 2, pg. 14).

6. Consider the extent to which the revised plan reduces accelerated erosion and offsite transport of asbestos fibers on vehicles and clothes due to off-highway vehicle use. (Ref; EPA Atlas Superfund Site ROD, Appendix 2, pg. 14).

7. All new data collected will have information about the data (metadata) stored in a data base. All metadata will meet the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) standards.

8. The RMP/EIS will incorporate by reference the *Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management*.

9. The RMP will result in determinations as required by special program and resource specific guidance detailed in Appendix C of the BLM's Planning Handbook (H-1601-1).

10. Decisions in the RMP will strive to be compatible with the existing plans and policies of adjacent local, State, Tribal, and Federal agencies as long as the decisions are in conformance with legal mandates on management of public lands.

11. Resource allocations must be reasonable and achievable within available technological and budgetary constraints.

The BLM will use an interdisciplinary approach to develop the RMP in order to consider the variety of resource issues and concerns identified. Specialists with expertise in the following disciplines will be involved in the planning process: rangeland management, minerals and geology, outdoor recreation, archaeology, botany, wildlife and fisheries, lands and realty, hydrology, soils, and sociology and economics.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Dated: August 27, 2007.

Rick Cooper,

Hollister Field Office Manager.

[FR Doc. E7-17599 Filed 9-5-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-40-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the General Management Plan, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, West Virginia, Maryland and Virginia

AGENCY: Department of the Interior, National Park Service.

ACTION: Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the General Management Plan, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, 42 U.S.C. 4332(C), the National Park Service (NPS) announces the availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the General Management Plan, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, West Virginia, Maryland and Virginia. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the General Management Plan analyzes the impacts of a no-action and two action alternatives. The official responsible for this decision is the NPS Regional Director, National Capital Region.

DATES: The NPS will undertake a 60-day public review of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the General Management Plan following publication by the Environmental Protection Agency of the Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

ADDRESSES: Information will be available for public review in the office of the Superintendent, P.O. Box 65, Harpers Ferry, West Virginia 25425, by telephone at (304) 535-6748, and at the following locations: Office of the Chief of Planning, National Capital Region, National Park Service, 1100 Ohio Drive, SW., Washington, DC 20242, (202) 619-7277; Office of Public Affairs, National Park Service, Department of the Interior,

1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20240, (202) 208-6843; and Bolivar Harpers Ferry Public Library, 152 Polk Street, Harpers Ferry, West Virginia 25425, (304) 535-2301. Copies of the document may also be accessed via internet connection to the park Web site at <http://www.nps.gov/hafe> or directly through the NPS PEPC (Planning, Environment, and Public Comment) Web site at <http://www.parkplanning.nps.gov/parkHome.cfm?parkId=187>.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Marsha Wassel, Harpers Ferry, West Virginia at (304) 535-6748.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Alternative 1, the no-action alternative, describes the existing conditions and trends of park management and serves as a basis for comparison in evaluating the other alternatives.

Alternative 2, the NPS preferred alternative, was developed during the "Choosing By Advantages" process in which the planning team identifies and compares the relative advantages of each alternative according to a set of factors. This process also establishes the relationship between the advantages and costs of each alternative. This information is used to combine the best attributes of the preliminary alternatives into the preferred alternative giving the NPS the greatest overall benefit for the most reasonable cost.

Alternative 2 takes a traditional approach in which each location within the park is managed to reflect the most significant historic period or era associated with it. An enlarged contact station on Cavalier Heights would be developed. Management activities would focus on the preservation of the resources as well as the presentation of the interpretive themes appropriate to each location. Outlying portions of the park would be connected by an auto tour and round-the-park trail system. The existing transportation system would also be expanded to include more of the park. African-American history would be elevated in prominence on Camp Hill and NPS staff would work with partners to promote protection of and visitation to sites

throughout the local area. A public/private partnership would be cultivated to rehabilitate and manage the historic Shipley School.

Alternative 3 would provide increased connections with private businesses and public/private organizations to help utilize, maintain and interpret historic structures while bringing additional life and excitement to Lower Town. A joint NPS/state tourism entrance complex would be developed. This alternative would provide enhanced visitor services ensuring visitor needs were met not only in the park but in the surrounding counties. Historic structures would be preserved and interpreted. Some structures would be leased to non-NPS entities to ensure upkeep and lessen the financial burden on the park. A new headquarters building would be developed somewhere in the Harpers Ferry vicinity. An enlarged transportation system would be operated in partnership with Main Street Harpers Ferry. A public/private partnership would be developed to rehabilitate and manage the historic Shipley School.

Dated: August 13, 2007.

Joseph M. Lawler,

Regional Director, National Capital Region.
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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the General Management Plan, Monocacy National Battlefield, Maryland

AGENCY: Department of the Interior, National Park Service.

ACTION: Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the General Management Plan, Monocacy National Battlefield, Maryland.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, 42 U.S.C. 4332(C), the National Park Service (NPS) announces the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the General Management Plan, Monocacy National Battlefield, Maryland. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the General Management Plan analyzes the impacts of a no-action and three action alternatives. Alternative 4 is the NPS' preferred alternative. The official responsible for this decision is the

Regional Director, National Capital Region, National Park Service.

DATES: The NPS will undertake a 60-day public review of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the General Management Plan following publication by the Environmental Protection Agency of the Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

ADDRESSES: Information will be available for public review in the Office of the Superintendent, Monocacy National Battlefield, at 4801 Urbana Pike, Frederick, Maryland 21701, by telephone at (301) 662-6980 and at the following locations: Chief of Planning, National Capital Region, National Park Service, 1100 Ohio Drive, SW., Washington, DC 20242, (202) 619-7277; Office of Public Affairs, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20240, (202) 208-6843; Urbana Regional Library, 9020 Amelung Street, Frederick, Maryland 21704; and the C. Burr Artz Public Library, 110 East Patrick Street, Frederick, Maryland 21701. Copies of the document may also be accessed via Internet at <http://www.nps.gov/mono> or through the NPS PEPC (Planning, Environment and Public Comment) Web site at: <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/parkHome.cfm?parkId=192>.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Susan Trail, Superintendent, Monocacy National Battlefield at 4801 Urbana Pike, Frederick, Maryland 21701, and by telephone at (301) 662-6980.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The no-action alternative describes the existing conditions and trends of park management and serves as a basis for comparison in evaluating the other alternatives.

Alternative 2 focuses narrowly on the story of the Battle of Monocacy, explaining troop movements, how the landscape affected the battle, and conveying an understanding of the participants. It is highly dependent upon the visitors getting out into the landscape with restored historic structures providing reference points but not being the interpretive focal

point. It includes an alternative transportation system operated by a commercial entity if market conditions allow. Visitor services would be provided at the visitor center, at the Gambrill Mill, and within a rehabilitated stone house on the Thomas Farm. An existing trail from the Gambrill Mill would be extended to the site of Wallace's headquarters, a major feature of the battlefield currently not open to visitors. A small parking area and restrooms would be provided at the latter site. Administration and maintenance facilities for Monocacy National Battlefield would move into rented space outside the boundary. The Thomas House would be rehabilitated under the Historic Leasing Program. Safer access to the 14th New Jersey Monument and a designated commemorative zone for possible new monuments would be created. A deck would be constructed over Interstate Highway 270 (I-270) to connect the Thomas and Worthington farms visually and physically with continuous landscape. The deck, featuring automobile access, would only be constructed if wholly or partly covered as mitigation for impacts resulting from the widening of I-270 currently being proposed under a Draft Environmental Impact Statement prepared by Maryland State Highway Administration and the Federal Highway Administration.

Alternative 3 would expand the story of the battle, not only explaining the troop movements but describing the impact of the battle and the Civil War on Frederick and the surrounding countryside. It would focus more on the human story than Alternative 2 with exhibits in the restored Best and Worthington houses as well as the stone house on the Thomas Farm. Parking at each site would be developed. No alternative transportation system would be available in Alternative 3. Visitors would access the site via personal automobile. Visitor services would be provided at the visitor center, at the Gambrill Mill, and within a rehabilitated stone house on the Thomas Farm. The maintenance facility would remain in the current structure while administration offices would be in a rehabilitated Thomas House. A new, safer entrance to the 14th New Jersey Monument would be created across Maryland Highway 355 with access under the existing bridge. The Lewis farmstead would be accessed by trail from the Worthington parking area along Baker Road. No deck would be constructed over I-270. Monocacy National Battlefield would institute a policy of no new monuments.